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WOPPEDAHL & LARSON LLP
DILLON, COLORADOCARL OPPEDAHL
MARINA T. LARSON, Ph.D.
KAREN L. WADE, Ph.D.TEL: +1 970 468-6600
FAX: +1 970 468-0104
WWW.PATENTS.COM

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To: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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Fax No: 703-308-4242 or 703-305-3014

From: Marina T. Larson, Ph.D.
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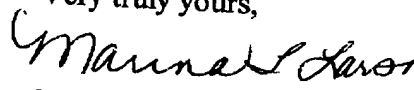
RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/554,956

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Attached is a Power of Attorney executed by Paul Hempel, General Counsel of Inverness Medical Switzerland GMBH. Please associate it with our Customer No. 021121 promptly as we are attempting to schedule a conference with the Examiner.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Marina T. Larson, Ph.D.

ML/llo